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**FOREIGN
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JPRS Report

Telecommunications

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Telecommunications

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ETHIOPIA

Semiautomatic Microwave Telephone Exchange Installed

91WT0026A Addis Ababa *THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD* in English 10 Oct 90 pp 1, 5

[Article: "Semi-Automatic Microwave Telephone Exchange Installed"]

[Excerpts] Jinka (ENA)—A 1.6 million semi-automatic microwave telephone exchange has been installed here by the Ethiopian Telecommunications Authority.

The project which was launched last year to improve communications facilities for the benefit of residents of Jinka town and inhabitants of South Omo Administrative Region was inaugurated on Sunday by Comrade Wolle Chekol, member of the CC of the WPE and Deputy Prime Minister.

[Passage omitted]

Speaking on their part, Comrade Tefera Endalew, Chief Administrator of South Omo Administrative Region, and Comrade Wondifraw Wolde-Selassie, the regional manager of the Telecommunications Authority, emphasized that the alleviation of communication problems in the region would promote development, increase administrative efficiency and raise the quality of telecommunications services.

The new telephone exchange is open both to domestic and international calls and is capable of meeting the needs of 200 clients, which will be progressively stepped up by another 300 in the future.

[Passage omitted]

MOZAMBIQUE

Portuguese Enterprises Sign Joint Telecommunications Contract

MB3110073690 Maputo *Domestic Service in Portuguese* 0400 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] In Maputo on 30 October, Telecommunications of Mozambique Enterprise and Portugal's Post and Telecommunications Enterprise, as well as the Lisbon and Oporto Telephone Company signed a contract to create a joint venture soon under the name of (Telesol).

The social capital of that joint venture will be 400 million meticals. Telecommunications of Mozambique Enterprise will contribute half of that amount.

(Telesol) joint venture plans to install commercial telecommunications services and offer technical assistance for equipment in telecommunications terminals.

That joint venture also plans to run and exploit telecommunications services on a mobile and commercial basis throughout the country.

The contract was signed by Telecommunications of Mozambique Director General Rui Fernandes; Silva Marques, chairman of the administrative council of the Portuguese Post and Telecommunications Enterprise; and Melo Franco, chairman of the administrative council of the Lisbon and Oporto Telephone Company.

SOUTH AFRICA

SABC Installs Satellite Tracking for Rural Districts

MB2910172490 Johannesburg *Television Service* in English 1545 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Good news for television viewers in outlying areas who have been experiencing poor visual and sound quality for the past year or so. The SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] is improving its satellite tracking systems at more than 20 satellite reception points around the country, to ensure better television pictures and sound.

The SABC's outer space link via Intelsat V has run into station-keeping problems, which has resulted in picture disturbance or noise on television broadcasts. Intelsat V, launched in 1982, ensures live transmission to South African viewers.

Since the fuel for keeping the satellite at a fixed distance from the earth has now run out, the satellite seems to go astray every so often. Natal's south coast has been one of the worst-hit areas, and technicians and engineers installed an hydraulic tracking system just outside Port Shepstone today.

The tracking system will move the dish into a horizontal and vertical plane in order to track the satellite. As the signal moves further out of orbit and gets weaker, the tracking system comes into operation automatically.

The total cost of the hardware is more than 1 million rands, and should keep viewers happy until Intelsat VI is launched next year.

Radio, Television Industry Develops Rapidly in Xinjiang

*OW2810104090 Beijing XINHUA Domestic Service
in Chinese 0731 GMT 27 Oct 90*

[By reporter Li Shengjiang (2621 3932 3068)]

[Text] Urumqi, 27 Oct (XINHUA)—The rapid development of the broadcast and television industry has ushered in an information age in the once secluded Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in the northwest, thus bringing the region much closer to the hinterland and the outside world.

In the early years of liberation, there was only one radio station in the autonomous region. Television transmission did not begin until the 1970's. In the 1980's, the party and government began to pay great attention to the development of the radio and television industry, investing large amounts of manpower, materials, and financial resources in building related installations. The region now has 37 broadcasting and relay stations, with a total transmission power 3,000 times that of the early years of liberation. The Xinjiang People's Broadcasting Station beams programs totaling 52 hours in five languages—Uygur, Mandarin, Kazakh, Mongolian, and Kirgiz—to the entire region everyday. Seventy percent of the region's population receives the broadcasts. Meanwhile, the television industry has advanced by leaps and bounds. There are now 810 television stations, television relay stations, differential relay stations, and satellite ground receiving stations in the entire region. Television

stations in various parts of the region air a total of 38 programs, most of which are beamed in two languages over two channels to 65 percent of the population. People of various nationalities in urban and rural areas can watch or listen to the national and international news of the same day.

Currently, more than 8,000 people are engaged in the radio and television industry in the autonomous region. Substantial and colorful radio and television programs have played a pivotal role in publicizing the party's principles, lines, and policies; transmitting information and scientific and technological know-how; providing cultural entertainment to people of all ethnic groups; promoting security in border areas; and fostering interethnic unity.

Microwave Circuit Completed in Shandong

*SK0811122290 Jinan Shandong Provincial Service
in Mandarin 2300 GMT 7 Nov 90*

[Text] Construction of the 11 microwave stations covering a distance of 320 km within the boundaries of Shandong Province, which are a part of the Beijing-Shanghai digital microwave communication circuit, a key construction project of the state during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period, have all been completed thus far. After being fed into other communications lines in the province, this microwave circuit will be open to operation at the end of this year.

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

VNA Opens Bureau in Tokyo

OW0711155890 Tokyo KYODO in English 1303 GMT
7 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 7 KYODO—VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA) opened a bureau in Tokyo Wednesday and launched its first dedicated communications circuit for news transmission with a Western-aligned country.

The opening was celebrated at an inaugural party at a Tokyo hotel attended by Vietnamese Ambassador to Tokyo Vo Van Sung and VNA General Director Do Phuong.

Nguyen Dai Phuong is to head the Tokyo bureau.

In Asia VNA also maintains bureaus in Beijing and New Delhi.

JAPAN

Sony To Market High-Definition Television for Home Use

OW0111143290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1415 GMT
1 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 1 KYODO—Sony Corp. on Thursday unveiled a wide-aspect 36-inch high-definition television (HDTV) receiver for home use, in preparation for the start of HDTV broadcasts next fall in Japan.

This TV, the first consumer-use HDTV receiver to be marketed, will go on sale on December 1 for 2.3 million yen.

Sony first announced the development of an HDTV for industrial use in 1981.

Sony officials said that the new home-use HDTV lacks a decoder and will have to be fitted with one if it is to receive HDTV broadcasts.

They said such decoders will be produced to order from December at a cost of 1.8 million yen each. A decoder converts encoded data back into its original form.

The decoderless home HDTV, however, is capable of receiving common TV broadcasts and satellite TV broadcasts, as well as reproducing video disks, the officials said.

A wide-aspect 16:9 ratio cathode-ray tube, compared with the conventional 4:3 ratio type, is a main feature of the new Sony product, they said.

Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) is due to start full-scale HDTV broadcasting in the autumn next year.

Other consumer electronics giants like Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Toshiba Corp., and NEC Corp.,

which have already test-manufactured consumer-use HDTV receivers, are also preparing to market them.

Firms To Set Up Optical Cable System for Four ASEAN Nations

OW3010125290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1153 GMT
30 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 30 KYODO—NEC Corp., Fujitsu Ltd., and Ocean Cable Co., said Tuesday they have signed a contract in Brunei to set up an underwater optical cable system linking four members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The underwater cable will link Brunei, Singapore, Malaysia, and the Philippines, the firm officials said.

Construction of the cable linking Brunei and Singapore is expected to be completed in late November, 1991. The line linking Brunei, Malaysia, and the Philippines is expected to be completed in late January 1992.

The two lines will each be approximately 1,500 kilometers long.

The lines will have an information capacity of 560 megabits per second, they said. One megabit is equal to 1 million bits.

The telephone circuit will have a capacity of about 15,000 circuits, the largest in Southeast Asia, they said.

Sony Groups To Develop Software for New Media

OW0511092490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0904 GMT
5 Nov 90

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 5 KYODO—CBS Sony Group plans to develop software with Sony Corp. for the new advanced media of the future, such as broadcasting satellites and computers connected to audio-visual equipment, an industry source said Monday.

These so-called "next generation media" are in the process of rapid development, with high-definition television systems, for instance, expected to become popular in five to 10 years' time.

According to the source, CBS Sony's main project at this point is to develop software for advanced digital recording equipment for compact disks (CDs). Sony is expected to be the first company to market the equipment in Japan next year.

The source added the project also means CBS Sony can boost and diversify its operations after April next year when it changes its name to Sony Music Entertainment Inc.

Sony announced last month that it had agreed with U.S. broadcasting network CBS Inc. to change its name when it acquired CBS Records Inc. in America in 1988 from its parent broadcasting company.

CBS Sony's annual sales in fiscal 1989 totaled 78.9 billion yen, of which 70 percent was from software sales of CDs and cassette recorders.

New UHF Station for Tokyo Area Planned

*OW0811124090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0737 GMT
8 Nov 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 8 KYODO—The government is considering licensing a new UHF television station for Tokyo in about three years, the first new station in the metropolitan area since 1964, officials at the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications said Thursday.

Posts and Telecommunications Minister Takashi Fukaya outlined the plan to Tokyo Governor Shunichi Suzuki, who visited the ministry the same day, the officials said.

The minister is also expected to ask for an advisory opinion from the Radio Regulatory Council next week over the allocation of a broadcast frequency for the planned local UHF television station.

Five privately run national-network television stations currently serve Tokyo and its vicinity, but none specializes in local Tokyo news.

Local businessmen, such as Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry members, have long asked for such a channel, the ministry officials said.

Private television stations in the Tokyo area, however, opposed such a plan, saying that six stations in the area are too many.

UHF television stations in neighboring areas such as Kanagawa, Chiba and Saitama Prefectures also insisted it will severely affect their operations.

The minister said at a press conference after meeting with the Tokyo governor that Tokyo is the only area not covered by a local station and that national networks cannot provide enough local news to people in the area.

Tokyo people suffer the most from congestion brought on by too many facilities in the capital city, Fukaya said, adding he believes setting up a local station is necessary for revitalizing the Tokyo area.

Suzuki also said in a separate press meeting that the proposed station will not directly compete with Tokyo key stations or neighboring UHF stations because its coverage will differ from the others.

The ministry officials said the minister's council is expected to submit its report probably in January. The ministry then will proceed with the plan in the following couple of months, they added.

It will be the first TV station set up in the metropolitan area since 1964, when Television Tokyo Channel 12 Ltd. was inaugurated.

Maritime Satellites Now Cover Entire World

*OW0811124390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0846 GMT
8 Nov 90*

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 8 KYODO—International Maritime Satellite Organization (Inmarsat) has repositioned one of its satellites to eliminate a former coverage gap running from North America to the South Pacific Ocean, KDD (Kokusai Denshin Denwa) said Thursday.

The organization started shifting one of its two satellites over the Atlantic Ocean some distance toward the West on September 29, completing the maneuver Sunday, KDD officials added.

The former coverage gap spans one of the world's richest fishing areas in the South Pacific, where many Japanese fishing boats operate, the officials said.

The change will increase the use of satellite communications by the Japanese fishing industry.

According to the officials, there are about 12,000 vessels around the world with maritime satellite communications equipment. As of October, about 1,000 of these were Japanese.

Such facilities have become much smaller and lighter than before and can now be fitted to small fishing or leisure boats under 100 tons, they said.

SOUTH KOREA

Court Ruling Could Lead to Privatization of TV System

*SK0211075390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0715 GMT
2 Nov 90*

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 2 (YONHAP)—A Seoul court has nullified the sale of shares in one of South Korea's two radio and television networks and ordered their return in the first judicial ruling against the government-led merger of news media in 1980.

The Nambu branch of the Seoul District Court, in two separate rulings on Thursday and Friday, said Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC) should return 27,428 shares in five local stations to six individuals.

"It was illegal for the military intelligence agency to force these people to give up their stock in MBC despite claims that it was in the public interest. Since the plaintiffs signed the papers (giving up their shares) under coercion, the contracts are invalid," presiding Judge Yi Yong-pok said in Thursday's ruling.

Yi ordered MBC to return 10,080 shares of its Chongju and Kangnung affiliates to Yi Sok-hun, Choe Tong-ung and Han Pyong-ki. On Friday, MBC was ordered to return 17,348 shares to Pak Chae-kyu, Kwon E-tam and Pyon Tae-hui, shareholders in its Cheju, Mokpo and Yosu stations.

MBC will appeal the judgement and it will be one or two years before the supreme court makes a ruling. If the highest court decides in favor of the plaintiffs, it will set a precedent that could fundamentally change the structure of MBC.

Majority shareholders in five of 18 local stations whose stock was transferred to MBC in 1980 won this week's court rulings and former shareholders of the remaining 13 stations are expected to bring similar suits to recover their shares, taken from them on the orders of then-gen. Chon Tu-hwan.

Chon led a group of fellow generals, including incumbent President No Tae-u, in a "purification" of the media in a power-grab following the assassination of president Pak Chong-hui in October 1979, closing papers, news agencies, a broadcasting system and a TV-radio network, and putting MBC under their control.

Shares in local stations were bought by Seoul MBC, and then 70 percent of the shares in Seoul MBC were sold to the government.

The rulings are expected to encourage the former owners of Tongyang Broadcasting Co. (TBC) and Dong-a Broadcasting System (DBS) radio station, CHUNG-ANG DAILY NEWS (owned by the Samsung Business Group) and DONG-A ILBO daily newspaper, respectively, to seek the return of the companies.

It may also prod the seven conglomerates forced to abandon their 70 percent stock in Seoul MBC to file suits to get their shares back.

Hyundai, Lucky-Goldstar, Daehan Life Insurance, Haitai and Dong-a (no connection) owned 10 percent each of Seoul MBC, a Ssangyong affiliate had 15 percent, and Seoul Miwon had 5 percent.

If these groups were to get their shares back, it would automatically privatize MBC, which is owned by the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS), the nation's largest TV-radio network, and KBS might have to yield one or two of its four channels if TBC and DBS are returned to life.

The defendant, MBC president Choe Chang-pong, had insisted the lawsuits were void because the statute of limitations expired in 1983, but Judge Yi rejected the claim because the suits could not be brought during Chon's reign.

"The three-year prescription must begin in December 1988, when the 13th-term National Assembly launched public hearings into the merger of the news media and when the merger obsession of the Fifth Republic (Chon's government) was cleared on the part of the plaintiffs," Yi said.

Under this ruling, those who suffered damage by the forcible merger of news media may sue to retrieve their rights until december 1991.

Information Minister Announces Private TV Network

SK3110124490 Seoul YONHAP in English 1236 GMT
31 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 31 (YONHAP)—The government Wednesday selected Taeyong Co., a construction company, as the main shareholder of a new commercial television network, Information Minister Choe Pyong-yol said Wednesday.

Taeyong will virtually have the right to manage the station which is due to go on the air late next year, by holding up to 30 percent of the equity shares.

The decision came in a meeting of the new commercial television network promotion committee, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun.

The meeting also selected 30 large and small shareholders who will make equity participation in the network between 1 percent and 7 percent.

A total of 60 companies, organizations and individuals applied to become shareholders in the new TV network, the first ever commercial station since all privately-owned TV and radio networks were forcibly merged into state-run networks in 1980.

PHILIPPINES

Japanese Grant To Fund Telecommunications Project

HK0611043390 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 6 Nov 90 p 2

[By Cynthia H. Evidente]

[Text] A 378-million-yen technical grant from the Japanese government has been made available for government telecommunications projects.

BUSINESS WORLD learned yesterday that the funding arrangement was finalized in Washington D.C. in a memorandum of understanding signed October 2, 1990 between the World Bank and Philippine officials.

According to inside sources, the grant, roughly worth \$2.9 million at current rate of the yen to the dollar, will be used to set up a consultancy body to assist the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) in privatizing current telecoms projects.

These include the Regional Telecommunications Development Program (RTDP) I and II (Phase B) and the National Telephone Program [NTP] Tranches 1-1, 1-2 and 1-3.

The RTDP covers Regions I and II while the NTP series will cover Regions III to XII.

Likewise, part of the grant will be made available for current moves to strengthen the National Telecommunications Commission and manpower development.

At present, the RTDP I and II, or Phase B is already 50 complete, with the installation of telephone facilities in the Pangasinan area. Phase B is expected to be finished by 1991.

NTP Tranche 1-1, which is to install 59,950 lines in Regions III, IV and V, is ongoing with several telecoms firms set to bid for the facilities to be set up by the government.

Actual implementation of NTP 1-2 is covered by the 16th OECF [expansion not known] loan with foreign funding amounting to \$130.1 million and a local funding of P1.5 billion.

NTP tranche 1-2 for Regions, VI, VII and VIII is covered under a French loan amounting to P53.5 million. The local counterpart fund amounts to P1.2 million.

Engineering

The detailed engineering and pilot project for NTP 1-2 is expected to be completed by December 1991.

However, the implementation of NTP 1-3 has suffered some delays.

Although the project, which is to install 43,900 digital lines in Regions IX to XII, should have begun last July, it did not because the Italian government did not reconfirm its \$74.4-million loan last October.

NTP 1-3 is targeted to be finished in 18 months or by the first quarter of 1993.

Privatization

Earlier, Undersecretary for Telecommunications Josefin Lichauco said the DOTC will pursue the privatization of these projects.

However, actual mechanics for the divestment of government holdings on these telecoms facilities will still have to be worked out.

So far, three private telecoms firms have shown interest in the privatization moves of Government.

These are the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., Digital Telecommunications Phils. Inc. and the Philippine Telegraph and Telephone Corp.

The Japanese technical grant was negotiated in behalf of the Philippine government by the World Bank, which will manage the funds for the country.

SINGAPORE

World's First Picture-Quality Videotex System Launched

BK0111084590 Singapore Domestic Service in English 14000 GMT 31 Oct 90

[Text] Singapore Telecoms has given details of its televue service, which was launched today. The system, which is the first picture-quality videotex system in the world, will cost subscribers in the homes \$9 [Singapore dollars] a month. A business subscriber pays \$29. A Telecoms spokesman said the first 10 hours of news are free, but it costs one cent per minute after that.

The communications and information minister, Dr. Yeo Ning Hong, launching the televue this morning, said the technological (?marvel) marked another milestone toward Singapore's achievement in [word indistinct]. He said the Televue, which took nine years to create at a cost of \$50 million, is Telecom's contribution to the 25th [independence] anniversary celebrations. Dr. Yeo said there are plans to export the system overseas to countries like Hong Kong.

TAIWAN

DPP Involved in Plan To Launch Satellite

OW0411115490 Taipei CHINA POST in English 31 Oct 90 p 15

[Text] A satellite reportedly sponsored by the opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) is scheduled to be launched from the Philippines in December, according to the Taiwan times.

Other sponsors include Wu Le-tien, a popular radio host, who also operates a cable television network, called the Voice of Democracy television station; and a foundation for Asian Pacific public affairs.

The newspaper said that the US\$1.6 billion satellite called the Asian Pacific Satellite 1 was designed by some 70 overseas Chinese engineers working at Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

The satellite will be able to broadcast to mainland China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Australia, and the Middle East, the newspaper said.

It also reported that the DPP will install a satellite dish in the mountain area of Puli in Nantou County, central Taiwan.

The DPP has been involved in the satellite plan for more than a year, according to Wu, adding that Chang Chun-hung, the DPP's secretary-general, also went to the Philippines after a short trip to the United States to examine the launching site this month.

Wu also disclosed that Chang, Changhua County Commissioner Chou Ching-yu of the DPP and Hsu Jung-shu former DPP legislator, are personal friends of Corazon Aquino, the president of the Philippines.

He said that the president was informed about the satellite launching and she has agreed to the plan.

The programs received from the satellite will be beamed to Wu's six cable stations in the nation, Wu said.

Currently the government still bans cable and satellite operations in the country.

VIETNAM

New Radio Transmission Station Set Up in Huong Hoa

*BK0811145390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 7 Nov 90*

[Text] Thanks to the investment made by the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Tourism, the mountain District of Huong Hoa, Quang Tri Province, recently finished building a new radio transmission station. This modern project has a transmission radius of 15 km and technical equipment worth 50 million dong.

Along with the construction of new facilities, the wired radio station has repaired its cable network and public loudspeaker system to serve the people in Khe Sanh Township and various villages of Huong Hoa District.

HUNGARY

Austrian Digital Branch Exchange Installed

91WT0013A Budapest *COMPUTERWORLD*/
SZAMITASTECHNIKA in Hungarian 16 Aug 90 p 5

[Article by Janos Kis: "Digital Telephone Exchange in Szekesfehervar"]

[Text] Up to now the area around Szekesfehervar and Velenceito has been considered one of the areas suffering a severe telephone shortage. A real change was very fitting for conditions there. Two ADS system digital branch exchanges delivered by the firm Austria Telekomunikation were recently put into operation in the county seat and at Gardony. The node of the associated exchanges in Szekesfehervar and Gardony no longer has to wait hours for the dial tone. Indeed, we can even initiate calls to Budapest or abroad without worry because the capital can be reached not only on the direct Budapest circuit but also in roundabout directions, for example via Gyor.

Similar exchanges were installed earlier in Szombathely and Budafok. The Szekesfehervar system is new in that contrary to good old post office custom the system was not rendered completely stupid so the subscriber can avail himself of many of the services customary in the West and about which we could not even dream in Hungary up to now.

It is expected that beginning in October the subscribers of the Szombathely digital exchange will be able to use these possibilities as well. But subscribers belonging to the area of the Budafok exchange will have to wait, at least if the Hungarian Telecommunications Enterprise sticks to its previous philosophy. Since the other Budapest exchanges are not suited for these extra services they will continue to be extirpated from this exchange—on the basis of the principle of equality in poverty. Let's not bother the heads of Budapest telephone users... But you have to start somewhere! In Budapest most of all.

The ADS exchanges represent the front rank of telephone technology used throughout the world. Their history goes back not quite 10 years, during which time many of them have been installed. The import of this switching technology became possible just at the end of last year when COCOM eliminated the restrictions pertaining to it. These exchanges are suitable for direct connection to the recently marketed enterprise branch exchanges over a digital transmission channel (with a 2 megabit/s PCM)—although at present the Hungarian Telecommunications Enterprise does not offer this as a service officially. Gyula Szabo, of the Center of the Hungarian Telecommunications Enterprise, observed that if there is such a need and if it can be realized technically then they will make a digital connection to the enterprise branch exchanges possible.

Redirected

We should note first of all that only the most modern telephone sets or modems using pulse and frequency coded (DTMF) dialing can be considered. The expanded services can be used only if we ask the digital exchange involved to tie them in. At present this is free of charge; later they would like to get some symbolic fee for it. If he is connected to a digital exchange, if he asks for these services and if he has a bistandard telephone set and/or modem then the telephone subscriber can conduct a dialog with the computer of the exchange. His desires can be communicated to the exchange with the buttons of his telephone set and its answers will be communicated by different dial tones or by living speech produced by a speech synthesizer.

The system can be reprogrammed according to the needs of the subscriber. A number of interesting novelties can be discovered this way. For example, within the area of the exchange we can redirect a call to us to another telephone number. During the time of the redirection we can continue to call anyone from our set but a special dial tone warns that the calls of those seeking us have been redirected. We can also erase the redirection at will. A call cannot be redirected to the area of another exchange, however; this possibility is disallowed in the telephone exchange.

If we call from a suitable set then, to get redirection, we must first press the star button of the set, then we must give the code for the service, 21. Then press the star again and then the number to which we want the redirection. We complete the programming with the hashmark (#) button. If we do all this the exchange accepts the requested service; a message from the speech synthesizer confirms our action. If we made a mistake or if we cannot redirect calls to the requested number then the speech synthesizer tells us that the requested service cannot be provided. Erasing is simple; key in the number of the service after the hashmark, then press the hashmark again, and wait for the message indicating acceptance. Bosses and those providing business services will truly appreciate this possibility.

Secretarial Functions

A long list of services of secretarial systems can be extended to the entire area of the exchange. Of these we might stress call waiting and three-party calls. If someone calls us during a conversation then we hear a warning tone. When the tone sounds the conversation is broken briefly and we can talk to the second caller, then we can continue the first conversation. To do this we must use the Flash button of the set. A similar case is where we call two subscribers one after another and talk with them alternately. It is hard to understand why they disallowed simultaneous conversation, the so-called conference connection.

It may be useful to temporarily disconnect the possibility of a call, that is to redirect the call to some standard speech synthesizer message which can be obtained from

the exchange. By keying in the appropriate service codes one can select from among the following possibilities:

- 01— the number cannot be connected temporarily at the request of the subscriber;
- 02— the number cannot be connected temporarily;
- 03— the number cannot be connected temporarily because of vacation;
- 04— the number cannot be connected temporarily because of inventory.

This set is expanded further by the 27 code service. The texts are the same but to each one of them we can add: Please call after... where we must select the time by pushing the appropriate buttons.

The proliferating private undertakings can appreciate the two line, one number possibility, where, for example, the shop and the home of the entrepreneur can have the same number. In this case the call is directed to the other set after a given time. Or the other way around, one line, several numbers could have sense if we direct one of the numbers to an automatic message after a certain time of day, for example after hours for a customer service, while the other, secret, number can still be used by those who know it.

We could avoid much confusion on data transmission and telefax lines if we could keep the long distance operator from breaking into the conversation. The wake-up service also could be used much more simply and in more ways than we are used to. And it is worth noting that the exchange makes it possible for the subscriber to have a fee counter. This will be appreciated by those who make their sets available to the public—as to guests in a pension. It is true that in the case of multiple calls this counter can register only the one conversation.

Together with the technical background the attitude is also changing slowly but surely at the successors to the Royal Hungarian Post Office. The goal now should be to move forward everywhere where conditions permit. For example, in the Budapest exchanges, at least where it is possible, at present in Budafok, they should introduce the services mentioned and all the rest of which the exchange is technically capable. (The Hungarian Telecommunications Enterprise lists the possibilities in a 35 page book.) This would be the way for an enterprise which has had us at its mercy to become an undertaking which offers services truly at the European level.

YUGOSLAVIA

Private Television Expanding, Yutel Facing Opposition

Local Political Opposition

*AU0511110090 Paris AFP in English 1017 GMT
5 Nov 90*

[Text] Belgrade, Nov 5 (AFP)—Private television stations have started mushrooming in Yugoslavia, though

they are facing opposition from the local political powers who are also resisting any trend towards nationwide broadcasts.

The latest station to open is in the southern republic of Macedonia. It broadcasts 12 hours of programming daily - mostly films, commercials and video clips—to the 50,000 residents in and around the southeastern city of Stip.

It joins a series of small, local television stations that have sprung up recently, mostly in Croatia and Slovenia in the northwest.

The largest new independent station is the YUTEL station, which was opened October 23 by a private firm in which the federal government of Ante Markovic holds the majority shares.

YUTEL hopes to fill the void of television news programs covering all of Yugoslavia's territory but has met with sharp protest in Serbia, the most populous republic where the capital Belgrade is located.

Currently, the television stations in the country's six republics and two autonomous provinces are tightly controlled by the local political authorities, be they communist or non-communist, who have done little to broaden the spectator's choice of news programs.

YUTEL so far can only be seen in the central republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is building its own studio in Belgrade, but in the meantime is broadcast from the station in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia.

The plans for YUTEL, however, have angered the chairman of Serbian television, Dusan Mitevic. He has blasted YUTEL as a "pirate station" and ordered that mobile transmission relays lent by the army be dismantled.

Under current regulations, in Belgrade only the daily Politika, the organ for Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic, has the right to access to a television station.

Another station called TV Studio B, which has no party affiliation, has been waiting for months for the allocation of a broadcasting frequency in Belgrade.

New TV Channel Yutel

*LD0111190390 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1617 GMT 1 Nov 90*

[Text] Belgrade, November 1 (TANJUG)—The new TV channel Yutel, set up by Prime Minister Ante Markovic's government, will operate as a shareholder's society.

An analysis of Yutel's program, presented in Federal Assembly by the Yugoslav Secretariat for Information today, says that the government will provide 51 percent of necessary capital and has invited other Yugoslav TV centers and foreign firms to invest in Yutel.

The analysis also says that 3.6 million dinars (1 DM - 7 dinars) have been invested in Yutel and that it is the first TV company in Yugoslavia which will cover all parts of the country. As of next fall, Yutel's programs are to be broadcast via satellite.

The Yugoslav Information Secretariat said that Yutel would not be financed either from the budget or subscription, but will operate solely on a commercial basis and acquire most of its income from foreign commercials.

Yutel's basic principles forbid political propaganda of parties, organizations or their programs on a commercial basis.

The analysis also says that Yutel's editors and journalists are independent in performing their professional activities, and their political beliefs and allegiance to political or other organizations should not influence the carrying out of their duties.

BELIZE

New Act Liberalizes Radio, TV Broadcasting

FL0611171090 Bridgetown CANA in English
1528 GMT 6 Nov 90

[By Mark Lee]

[Text] Belize City, Nov 6, CANA—Belize, Central America's only English-speaking country, is boasting of a new broadcasting act which it says is the most progressive in the Commonwealth Caribbean.

The act, significantly, was passed on September 21, the ninth anniversary of the country's independence of Britain. Under it, the government-run radio station has been made a corporation and the opposition is entitled to make nominations to the board.

There is also a policy statement which declares the "principles of freedom of expression enunciated in the Belize Constitution..." and that "there should be no political censorship of news and views..."

"Control is now being placed in the hands of the people," the station's acting general manager, Rene Villanueva, told the Caribbean News Agency. He alludes to the composition of the board of 11, made up of five government nominees, a vice-chairman, and one other person named by the leader of the opposition, and a representative each from the Chamber of Commerce, the Council of Churches, the Trades Union Congress, and non-governmental organisations.

"It is perhaps the only corporation in the Caribbean that has the opposition as part of the board (in law)," boasts Villanueva, who drafted the basic act to create a corporation in 1986. He credits minister of education, economic development, and foreign affairs, Said Musa, with incorporating the opposition on the board, and including the policy statement in the act. The statement covers such ideals as promoting Belizean culture, the provision of entertainment and education, and sticking to public good taste.

The move to streamline and improve government broadcasting was not based on mere altruism. Villanueva speaks of the hobbling nature of the civil service status of the former Belize Broadcasting Network, which the Broadcasting Corporation of Belize (BCB) replaces. He also notes that both major political parties—under whose administrations he has served as chief broadcasting officer—had "we shall free Radio Belize" in their election manifestos.

But when he first made his recommendations to the United Democratic Party administration of Manuel Esquivel in 1986, they were rejected. When the George Price People's United Party resumed power in September 1989 it decided to implement the pre-election promise.

BCB, whose staff [of] 75 operate AM Station Radio Belize, Friends FM, and a television production unit from cramped premises in this city, is generally up-tempo about the new situation which is also seeing major refurbishing to the plant and six transmitting sites. About 300,000 Belize dollars (one Bel. dollar = 50 U.S. cents) are being spent this year alone to upgrade AM transmission stations.

Another exciting challenge for the staff, says Villanueva, is the prospect of moving from "semi-commercial towards being fully commercial," since the organisation has been badly under-financed. "BCB is a public entity with a commercial instinct," Musa has said of the station's new status.

The 65,000 dollars allocated for recurrent maintenance expenditure for the 1990-91 financial year is 100,000 dollars less than requested. However, a revised budget for the balance of the year is being studied by the government.

With the new regimen, the approximately 160,000 dollars earned annually from commercials will go directly to BCB, instead of to the government's pool. The government will continue to finance the corporation's overall budget of more than one million dollars. Villanueva, meantime, is pressing ahead with his mandate. "So far, so good," he says of the corporation and the act. "They (the government) have made up their mind that they want us to be independent."

He continues to broadcast 24 hours of mainly music on FM, and 19 hours of AM programming, and produces a daily news package which is distributed free to 11 private low-power television stations scattered across Belize's 8,864 square miles.

"News reporting is improving," says Villanueva. Reporters are approaching news in a fearless manner now. I don't check on the content. I only tell them to be aware of the laws of libel and that's that."

For the man who started as a trainee announcer in 1968, only breaking his service once, between 1980 and 1983, the next challenge is to begin television transmission. He is hedging his bets on a low-power transmitter at least by early next year. His only problem is that the board has not yet given its approval to such a venture.

But the broadcast act and its policies do extend to television, and Villanueva is hoping his years of manoeuvring around red tape will help him to spur things on.

CHILE

Satellite Station Planned for Base in Antarctic

PY0311231090 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish
26 Oct 90 p 20

[Excerpts] A project to establish a satellite station at the Liberator General Bernardo O'Higgins Air Base in the

Antarctic is under way. This project is being carried out jointly by the Chilean Antarctic Institute (INACH) and the German "Alfred Wegener" Institute for polar and maritime research.

Work on this project, known as ERS/VLBI "O'Higgins Station," began in November 1989 and will include the installation of an antenna to pick up signals from the European Research Satellite (ERS-1), which will be put into orbit in 1991.

This information was supplied yesterday by Army Aviation Commander Colonel Aquiles Navarrete Izarnote-gui. [passage omitted]

The project will cost \$15 million and will be financed by Germany.

The Army will provide logistic support through its military base in Antarctica. Two officers are now in Germany becoming familiar with the operation and testing of the ERS/VLBI "O'Higgins Station." [passage omitted]

GUYANA

Parliament Passes Bills to Advance Divestment Program

*FL3010174490 Bridgetown CANA in English
1630 GMT 30 Oct 90*

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 30, CANA—Guyana's opposition and government members of Parliament, in a rare show of unanimity, on Monday approved three government bills which lay the foundation for advancing the government's divestment programme.

The Public Utilities Commission Bill 1990, the Telecommunications Bill 1990, and the Public Corporations (Amendment) Bill 1990 were piloted through the National Assembly by deputy prime minister, planning and development, Haslyn Parris.

The Public Utilities Commission Bill establishes an autonomous Public Utilities Commission which will oversee the services and facilities provided by public utilities. The commission will determine fair and reasonable rates to be charged by these bodies. The five-member commission will be empowered to investigate complaints against public utilities and "prescribe the adequate or reasonable service" the public utility should provide the public. It may also direct a public utility to pay compensation to any consumer "for loss or damage suffered by the consumer" on account of failure of the public utility to comply with the established norms for providing a reliable service to consumers.

Immediately, the commission will have jurisdiction over the local electricity and telecommunication entities, but the act makes provision for the relevant minister to

make orders placing other services—including airport and airline, and water services—under the jurisdiction of the commission.

This bill, like the other two, is pivotal to the government's imminent divestment of the state-owned Guyana Telecommunication Corporation, 80 percent of whose assets are to be acquired shortly by the U.S. Virgin Islands-based company, Atlantic Telenetwork (ATN), with the remaining 20 percent to be owned by the government. It is also pivotal in laying the foundation for a possible joint venture between the government and the U.S. firm, Leucadia, for the running of the now state-owned Guyana Electricity Corporation, with Leucadia controlling 60 percent of the shares, and the government controlling the remaining 40 percent.

The most voluminous of the three is the 61-clause, Telecommunications Bill 1990 which revises and updates the laws relating to telecommunication services in Guyana, establishes the office of director of telecommunications, and makes provision for the establishing of a licensing authority with respect to telecommunications in Guyana.

The five-clause Public Corporations (Amendment) Bill 1990 makes it clear that an order, vesting property of the state in a public corporation, can be made after a public corporation has been established. It also provides for the property of a public corporation or body corporate, owned or controlled by the state, to be transferred "not only to a public corporation, but also to any other person," and for a public corporation to be dissolved without the prior approval of the National Assembly.

The opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP), and Working People's Alliance (WPA) supported the bills while expressing a few reservations, especially in relation to the Public Utilities Commission Bill which they said was long-overdue.

JAMAICA

Government Grants Television, Radio Licenses

*FL0111184390 Bridgetown CANA in English
1517 GMT 1 Nov 90*

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 1, CANA—Jamaica's information and culture minister, Dr. Paul Robertson has announced new licenses for the operation of a national television station and a commercial radio station.

JAMPRESS, the national news agency, reported that CVM-TV has been granted a license to operate an islandwide television and Independent Radio Company (IRC) has been given a license to operate a national commercial radio station.

CVM-TV is a consortium whose lead investors are Mediamix Limited, Community Television Systems Limited, and Videomax Productions Limited. Other

shareholders are Dynamic Sounds Recording Company, Apex Film and Video Productions, public opinion pollster Professor Carl Stone, Island Life Insurance Company, Russgram Investments Limited, Century National Bank, Universal Leasing and Finance Limited, Serv-Well of Jamaica, and D.R. Holdings.

Independent Radio Company is a consortium whose shareholders are Century National Merchant Bank and Trust Company, GLEANER Company, Dyoil Insurance Company, E.A. Issa and Brothers, and Grace Kennedy Company. Other shareholders are Investment Managers Limited, Island Life Insurance Company, Jamaica Mutual Life Assurance Society, Life of Jamaica, Musson Jamaica, NCB Pension Scheme, Nation Publishing Company (Barbados), Pan Jamaican Group, Trinidad EXPRESS Newspapers Limited, Victoria Mutual Building Society, Kingston Port Workers Superannuation Fund, and employees of Independent Radio Company.

The granting of the license comes one month after public hearings on the applications were held by the broadcasting commission. Last year the government announced that it would allow private concerns to operate a national commercial television channel and islandwide radio stations. Under the government's media policy, no one investor should have more than 20 percent share in the new media entities.

MEXICO

Telecommunications Director on Plans for Future Satellites

PA0811032390 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
0111 GMT 4 Nov 90

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Carlos Laras Sumano, director of Telecommunications of Mexico (Telecomm), has reported that the enterprise will install integrated service centers at 56 strategic points throughout the country during 1990.

Telecomm is one of the pillars of the National Solidarity Program (Pronasol) because it is responsible for maintaining communications with the country's isolated regions and integrating the nation into worldwide technological development.

He reported that, to carry out those objectives, 56 integrated service centers will be installed. First, they will be placed in five airports in the country's interior and in the 16 political delegations in the federal district.

In those centers, the public will have access to national and international telex, telegraph, telegrams via telephone, facsimile, long distance telephone, and electronic funds transfer services.

Increased communication with the country's isolated areas has been achieved with the two existing Mexican satellites, and with the third satellite, which will be put into orbit in 1994, Mexico will contribute to Latin American unity.

Laras Sumano said that the commercial exchange demanded by the current socio-political and economic reorganization of the world will also be fostered, and that Mexico will be on a par with the developed countries that use complex satellite communications systems.

Telecomm also operates the telegram via telephone and electronic funds transfer services and the basic network that guarantees communication between the country's major cities and abroad.

The Telecomm director said that, during the present year, a broader and more aggressive marketing policy will be developed and will be directed toward the full use of installed capacity, with special attention paid to the user.

The services will be assigned to public and private enterprises, thus promoting more participation from private investment and increasing competence with new services.

Based on the aforementioned plans, the Federal Microwave Network that had administered Telecomm and the Mexican Telephone System has been dissolved. Studies to decide on the network's privatization, its cost, and the procedure for accepting bids are being conducted at the Communications and Transportation Secretariat (SCT).

To grant concessions and permits for the use of Telecomm equipment, legal instruments such as secretarial agreements and releases for those providing the service have been prepared, and the general communications bylaws have been updated.

In his second government report, President Carlos Salinas de Gortari pointed out that in the field of telecommunications, efforts have been made to guide, broaden, optimize, and continue the use of the current installations to provide service to as many people requiring it as possible.

Final specifications have been met for the satellite communications network, and studies have been conducted on the demand, financial feasibility, and commercial prospects for the new satellites, which will replace the current system when its useful life ends.

One of the nations that will vie to place the satellite "Solidarity" into orbit is the USSR through the "Glavkosmos" space agency.

The demand for service will increase by 50 percent with the new satellite, because it will be offering the "L" band for locating ships, airplanes, and cargo vehicles by radio, in addition to the "C and KU" bands.

This satellite will cover the interior of the country, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and part of the United States, Laras Sumano pointed out.

It will also allow for communication via satellite with cargo and passenger transport units transiting the national highway network, as well with ships navigating the Mexican coasts, Laras Sumano concluded.

EGYPT

Satellite Ground Station Inaugurated 29 Oct

To Serve International Links, Egyptian TV

NC2910121490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0847 GMT
29 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 29 Oct (MENA)—Engineer Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transport, communications, and maritime transport, and Arab transport ministers inaugurated in al-Ma'adi this morning the ground station for communications through Arabsat, which provides channels for international telephone, telex, and telegraph communications, and for conveyance of information through 36 percent of the operating channels [not further specified].

The rest of the communications will be provided by other international channels, with nine percent transmitted via terrestrial means and 55 percent by undersea cables.

Eng. Mutawalli said the station will ensure all international communications with 27 countries via the Intelsat network over the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. These 27 are among 50 countries with which Egypt has direct contact.

He added that the transmission and reception of television and news programs will be exchanged with all countries that have ground stations linked to Intelsat, and he said that communications with ships, oil rigs, and mobile stations operating via the Atlantic maritime communications satellite will also be provided.

Meanwhile, Eng. Wajdi 'Abd-al-Hamid, chairman of the National Telecommunications Authority, said the station, which cost 10 million [Egyptian] pounds, provides channels for telephone, radio, and television contact with the Arab countries.

He added that, with the operation of this station, communications service will be available to countries that previously had no direct contact with Egypt, such as Morocco, Somalia, and Mauritania. In addition, it will double the exchange of television and news programs with the Arab countries and the use of Arabsat's wide-band transponder, which covers the Arab world and some European and African countries.

He noted that the station will serve Egyptian television by making broadcasts available in remote regions, in oil companies' desert operations areas which currently do not receive television broadcasts, and in Egyptian communities abroad.

Experimental Satellite Transmission Begins

NC2910170590 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has stated that the Arabsat ground station which was inaugurated

today is a major achievement. Starting today it will enable Egyptian media to be available in the Arab world via the news exchange channel. He said all Arab subscribers will receive daily transmissions of news, cultural reports, and evening programs.

Beginning today, Egypt will transmit several hours of selected news and various other programs on the news exchange channel daily. Safwat al-Sharif said this will provide Egypt with numerous capabilities, now that we have a permanent channel at a lower cost and the opportunity to reserve the appropriate time for transmission. He added that the wide-band transponder, that is the Egyptian international satellite channel, will provide quality programs for the Egyptian television's channels 1 and 2 through the ground station.

The Egyptian satellite channel will begin experimental transmission as of today and continue to do so throughout November. Full transmission will start after erecting the ground stations and aerials that will relay the transmission to the Egyptian forces in Hafar al-Batin in Saudi Arabia and in the United Arab Emirates. This transmission will also be received in fraternal Bahrain. According to an agreement concluded with it, Bahrain will retransmit the material from the satellite channel on one of its television channels and on television channels in other neighboring Gulf countries.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1445 GMT on 29 October reports: "The information minister has issued a decision appointing Engineer 'Abd- al-Salam Khalil as chairman of the Egyptian satellite channel, and establishing a board of directors for it comprising the directors of the Egyptian television channels and experts in the sphere of communications and satellites."]

MAURITANIA

Telephone, Telex Links With Senegal Restored

AB3010171890 Paris AFP in French 2020 GMT
29 Oct 90

[Text] Nouakchott, 29 Oct (AFP)—Nouakchott-Dakar telephone and telex links were restored on 28 October between Mauritania and Senegal, observers in the Mauritanian capital noted. International telephone and telex communication between Nouakchott and Dakar were suspended last July on the initiative of Mauritania as a result of the Senegalese-Mauritanian crisis which began over one and a half years ago, it may be recalled.

Senegalese customers resumed telephone contacts with Nouakchott about a month or two ago, but their Mauritanian counterparts could not do the same. A recording always announced to them that it was not possible to get calls through this line.

According to a reliable source in Nouakchott, it is believed that this decision on the part of Mauritania to restore telephone and telex links with Senegal constitutes not only a sign of the Mauritanian authorities willingness to try to solve the Senegalese- Mauritanian crisis, but also to improve relations which were broken in August 1989 between the two countries at Dakar's initiative.

The dispute between the two neighboring countries broke out in April 1989. A clash between Mauritanian herdsmen and Senegalese farmers soon degenerated into a free-for-all with fighting between blacks and Moors claiming over 300 lives on both sides.

SRI LANKA

New TV Network Channel Begins Transmission 1 Nov
BK0311035290 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English
0750 GMT 2 Nov 90

[“OANA/Pool” item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 2 (LANKAPUVATH)—
[Television] network (ITN) commenced its Channel 12 transmission from Yatiyantota yesterday with Seth Pirith [religious hymns] being chanted by the Maha Sangha [the Buddhist clergy] at the auspicious time of

9.40 AM. The ceremony was telecast live from ITN's Thevis Guruge studio at Wickremasinghepura in Battaramulla with State Minister for Information A.J. Ranasinghe in attendance as chief guest. Other religious ceremonies were conducted by Fr. Benedict Joseph (Christian), Sava Shri Ramanathan (Hindu), and Moulavi Alhaj M.Y.M. Salahudeen (Muslim). Among those in the gathering was Mrs. Thevis Guruge, widow of the former competent authority of ITN to whom State Minister Ranasinghe in his address paid tribute as having performed a great service in bringing the television network to its present status. The state minister also thanked Japan for the assistance given to Sri Lanka for the development of the TV media. He told ITN's present competent authority Air Commodore Ananda Samarakoon and General Manager Gamini Kariyawasam that with this new Channel 12 transmission reaching places like Anuradhapur, Kurunegala, Matale, Kandy, Chilaw, and Nuwara Eliya on its periphery, they should exercise great care with program quality and content so as not to make madmen out of our rural masses. Programs should not only be for the Colombo 07 types whose heads are in the UK and their ears only here. “I am not saying the West is bad, but let us use the best of their programs instead of using the worst. We have to cater to the tastes of our rural folks,” he said.

'Gorizont' Communications Satellite Launched 3 Nov*LD0511091490 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0730 GMT 5 Nov 90*

[Text] Moscow, 5 Nov (TASS)—In accordance with the program for the further development of communications systems and television broadcasting by means of artificial earth satellites, on 3 November 1990 the launch of another "Gorizont" communications satellite was carried out by a "Proton" carrier rocket in the Soviet Union.

The satellite has been placed in a near-stationary orbit with the following parameters: distance from the earth's surface—35,688km; period of revolution—23 hours 51 minutes; orbital inclination—1.4 degrees.

The apparatus installed on the "Gorizont" satellite is working normally. The command and measuring complex is monitoring the satellite. The satellite's communications and television apparatus will be used in accordance with the planned program.

Yarosloval Cable/Satellite Studio Competes With Oblast TV*PM0111111590 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 27 Oct 90 Second Edition p 1*

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Chronicle of the Past Day": "From Satellite to Screen"]

[Text] Yaroslavl—The cable and satellite television studio at the "Rezinotekhnika" plant culture center has become a rival to oblast television broadcasting in Yaroslavl.

The studio, which initially expects 2,500 subscribers, has daily television broadcasts for the inhabitants of the Zavodskoy residential district. Viewers can see on the screen local news, up-to-the-minute reports, advertisements, programs for home study, and children's programs. Foreign feature films are also shown: The studio receives up to 20 foreign programs by satellite.

Direct Telephone Links with ROK To Open*LD0511064390 Moscow TASS in English 0633 GMT
5 Nov 90*

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Kopnov]

[Text] Tokyo November 5 TASS—A direct telephone link between South Korea and the Soviet Union will open at midnight tonight, a spokesman for the South Korean Ministry of Communications announced in Seoul.

An agreement between the Soviet Union and South Korea to open a direct telephone communication service was signed in August this year. Coaxial seabed cables linking South Korea with Japan and Japan with the Soviet Union were used to establish the service.

Previously both telephone and fax communications between the two countries were maintained via third countries, predominantly West European ones, and only seven-eight per cent of calls reached their destination at the first try.

Throughout 1989, people in South Korea and the Soviet Union contacted one another by telephone only 657 times. This year, however, the state of affairs radically changed. In September alone, there were almost 5,000 telephone conversations.

New Georgian News Agency Set Up*LD3110213890 Moscow TASS in English 2106 GMT
31 Oct 90*

[By TASS correspondent Igor Gvritishvili]

[Text] Tbilisi October 31 TASS—SAKARTVELO is a new agency which today began supplying news to about 100 periodicals, radio and television in this Transcaucasian republic.

The Georgian Republican Government, which endorsed the rules of the SAKARTVELO news agency, annulled the agency's previous name of GRUZINFORM.

In an interview with TASS, SAKARTVELO deputy head Otar Kapanadze stressed that it was not a mere signboard change. Deep structural changes are taking place in the agency's activity. Relations with TASS and other news agencies in Soviet republics will also be revised.

For instance, information exchange with other agencies will be carried out under contracts. SAKARTVELO will also seek to establish direct links with a number of foreign news agencies.

SAKARTVELO National News Agency, as it is to be called in full, will also take up publishing after it is technically retooled, Kapanadze said.

He also noted that the agency now employs about 200 people, including technicians. No staff cuts or increases are planned. The agency aims to concentrate on upgrading its workers' skills.

Estonia To Establish NMT Mobile Phone Network*91WT0008A Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT
in Finnish 26 Sep 90 B 15*

[Article: "NMT [Nokia Mobile Telephone] Network Comes to Estonia"]

[Text] An international NMT [Nokia Mobile Telephone] network is being built in Estonia. The Estonian Television Ministry, Suomen Tele, and Swedish Telecom International (STI) have agreed to establish a joint mobile telephone corporation by the end of the year.

Commercial NMT operation is expected to be in service in Estonia by next year. According to Tele, an experimental system is already in use.

The mobile telephone network to be built in Estonia is the NMT 400 system, which is in operation in all the Nordic countries. The system has almost a million customers.

According to Tele, Estonia's joining the network creates good conditions for the other Baltic countries to join the NMT mobile telephone network.

Tele and STI are also shareholders in the BMTS (Baltic Mobile Telephone System) consortium, which has applied for permission to build the NMT 450 mobile telephone system in Poland.

Stepanakert Radio Studio Resumes Work

*LD3010113190 Moscow Television Service in Russian
0930 GMT 30 Oct 90*

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] In Stepanakert, the oblast center of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast, the oblast radio studio has resumed work after nine months's forced silence.

NKAO Oblast Radio Resumes Operations

*PM3110144190 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA
PRAVDA in Russian 30 Oct 90 p 1*

[Unattributed "News in Brief" report]

[Text] Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast—Following nine months of silence, work has been resumed by the oblast radio station whose activity was suspended by the military commandant in January, when a state of emergency was introduced in the autonomous oblast.

Rayon TV Station Goes on Air in Ryazan Oblast

*PM0111164990 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 30 Oct 90 First Edition p 1*

[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, TASS roundup report:
"Rayon Television on the Air"]

[Text] Sasovo, Ryazan Oblast—The first rayon television broadcast has taken place in the oblast. The Komsomol [All-Union Lenin Communist Youth League] city committee has acted as the local television's organizer and sponsor. Sasovo Civil Aviation College teaching staff and specialists from a relay station located in the area have helped to implement this interesting idea. It is planned to place the new "glasnost channel" under the management of the city and rayon soviets of people's deputies.

CANADA

Phone Line Delivers Voice, Data, Video in Field Trial*91WT0024 Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL
in English 9 Oct 90 B3*

[Article by Lawrence Surtees]

[Text] Twenty-five homes in a quiet subdivision of Rimouski, Que., will soon be able to receive specialty video services on demand over the same fibre-optic line that delivers their telephone calls.

Consortel, a 3-year-old research and development company owned by Quebec-Telephone and Spectravision, the cable television arm of Cogeco Inc. of Montreal, launched the test delivery last week.

The aim of the project—the second phase of Consortel's field trial—is to demonstrate the integration of voice, data and video communications over a single fibre link to the home, Gilles Laroche, chairman of the board of Consortel and vice president of customer services at Quebec-Telephone, said in an interview.

Quebec-Telephone owns 96 percent of Consortel after buying out the shares held by CVDS Inc of Pointe Claire, Que., late last year.

Mr Laroche said the venture is looking for backers throughout the telecommunications equipment manufacturing, computer software and cable television industries to help support the next phase of the project.

Although he did not identify who Quebec-Telephone has been negotiating with, the company could seek support of some major telecommunications companies through its owner, Anglo-Canadian Telephone Co of St Laurent, Que.

Anglo-Canadian is a holding company owned by GTE Corp of Stamford, Conn., which also controls British Columbia Telephone Co of Burnaby, B.C.

The current test goes beyond many other fibre-optics trials in Canada and the United States because it is hoped it will demonstrate the delivery to the home of what are called switched broadband services—television signals delivered over a fibre-optic phone line and transmitted to the subscriber by way of a computerized telephone company switch that is used to route telephone calls.

The trial, which will run until the end of December, will use only one channel and test the capability to deliver video-on-demand services (which are billed by a unit of time) and pay-per-view services, such as a movie channel. Unlike existing pay television services, video on demand eliminates a monthly subscription fee.

Both the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission, which regulates Cogeco's cable

business and the Quebec Public Utilities Commission, which regulates Quebec-Telephone, have approved the project.

Mr Laroche said Consortel will also test other specialty services, such as computer games, because the fibre-optic network is two-way or interactive.

He said Consortel would like to test the delivery of four channels simultaneously in a subsequent phase.

"A subscriber could receive four different services, or channels, simultaneously, all of which are interactive, which would allow a subscriber to send information or video images along one channel to another subscriber."

The Consortel trial, launched last March, has received \$2.4-million in financial support from the federal and Quebec governments.

The project was originally budgeted at \$9-million over 3 years, but Quebec-Telephone has allocated in additional \$2.5-million to it.

Digitized Satellite Radio Service Launched*91WT0023 Vancouver THE SUN in English
2 Oct 90 p C2*

[Article by David Smith]

[Text] Western International Network officially introduced a new digitized satellite transmission service Monday that will carry ready-to-air programs and data transmissions to 71 affiliated AM and FM radio stations in B.C. and Alberta.

The six-channel system, built by Surrey-based Norsat International Inc., increases the number of audio signals which can be simultaneously transmitted, giving WIN-linked stations a greater range of programs.

While the audio signals are near compact-disc quality, most listeners will not notice a significant difference, said WIN network coordinator John Ashbridge.

The major difference will be in the number of programs each station will be able to receive under the new delivery system, he said.

The system has a single uplink located at WIN's flagship radio station CKNW in New Westminster. It replaces a two-channel analog C-band satellite system leased from Canadian Satellite Communications Inc. since 1984.

The Norsat system signals will be beamed to the Anik-C2 satellite, operated by Telesat Canada, then relayed to downlinks at the radio stations across western Canada.

"Now we have the technology and the capacity to serve a national market," Ashbridge observed, noting WIN's roots as a regional supplier of programs.

WIN, part of the Westcom Radio Group Ltd. which is owned by Vancouver-based Western International Communications Ltd., produces and transmits about 95

hours per week of live radio programming, including open-line news and National Hockey League and Canadian Football League play-by-play.

Ashbridge said the old-two channel system went to 66 radio stations. The 71 stations on the new system will pay the same rates for programming, he added.

The \$1-million capital costs to install the new system will be absorbed by WIN over a long-term period, Ashbridge said.

WIN president Ray Dagg described the technology as "the top system in North America" at the announcement ceremony.

Norsat designed, manufactured and installed the computer-controlled transmission equipment and downlink receiving packages for all the WIN affiliates.

The Surrey company is also contracted to maintain the system.

CYPRUS

Link With Greek TV Still Set for 1 Nov

Economic, Political Costs

NC2810052390 Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in English
27 Oct 90 p 3

[By Emilia Christofi]

[Text] CyBC [Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation] will go ahead with the link up with Greek television ERT [Greek Radio and Television] scheduled for November 1, despite reports in the press saying it would be postponed after reservations expressed by party leaders.

This was reaffirmed by the director of the administration and finances of CyBC Yeoryios Potamitis yesterday who said the delegation from the station which went to the Greek capital for final talks with the Government and ERT officials, was to return last night with more details on the link up.

The CyBC-ERT link up was discussed on Thursday by the parliamentary representatives of parties with the House President Vasos Lissaridhis. The new chairman of the CyBC Executive Board Marios Iliadhis was also present during the meeting and had the opportunity to explain in detail the economic consequences for the corporation with its link up with ERT.

According to a report in Greek daily ALITHIA, it is considered that around 375,000 pounds will be used for transmitting the ERT programmes throughout Cyprus, while the Cyprus Telecommunications Authority will also shoulder a great share of the expenditures incurred due to the satellite transmission.

CyBC estimates that it will lose around three million pounds annually from commercials.

DIKO [Democratic Party] parliamentary representative Alexis Galanos suggested postponing the CyBC-ERT link and was supported by the other parties too, although Mr. Lissaridhis called on them to reexamine their stance, considering the political cost, since the link was promoted by the insistence of the parties themselves.

The link will begin on November 1 and will cover only Nicosia and Limassol for the first six months. Viewers who receive transmission from Troodos station would need a UHF antenna but those covered by Athalassa will not need a further antenna.

CyBC has already started transmitting test pictures.

Further Reportage

NC3110101190 Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in English
31 Oct 90 p 3

[By Michele Kambas]

[Text] The ambitious CyBC-ERT 1 link up scheme to come into effect from tomorrow morning will cost the Cypriot taxpayer 1.6 million [Cyprus] pounds a year-or 330 [pounds] per hour.

"But the issue should not be based on how much it cost," said Minister of Interior Khristodoulos Veniamin at a press conference yesterday. "It is a national matter."

The vantage point for the reception of the Greek channel, as well as the retransmission of the CyBC channel to Greece will be the Makarios Earth Satellite Station. Initially, since all the transmitters have not yet been received, only Limassol and Nicosia will be able to pick up the ERT 1 signal. But CyBC estimates that the link up will cover all Cyprus by next Summer. All of Greece will receive CyBC TV tomorrow.

The Cyprus Telecommunications Authority undertook all negotiations to secure a satellite transmitter for a period of five years. Cyta will use the satellite station to send CyBC programmes to Greece, which will, in turn, also be used for picking up ERT signals sent by the Greek Telecommunications Authority, Ote.

"Cyta have installed the latest technology at the station to make the link up possible," said the Chairman of the Cyta board of directors, Nicos Koundas.

A new satellite dish with a seven metre diameter will be used in the primary stages of the link. Within two months a larger dish will be installed permanently.

Because of the increased use of the Eutelsat system from the TV link with Greece, Cyta will invest 1 million pounds in the organisation, whilst until now Cyta have spent over 500,000 pounds to install equipment to make the link up possible.

Cyprus is expected to link up with ERT tomorrow morning at 9:10. Children's programmes will be shown in the morning until 12.30, when there is a break for four and a half hours. Programmes will begin again at 5.00, and continue, until 1.00 a.m.

FRANCE

Thomson Receives Five-Year Funding for HDTV*91WT0020A Paris LES ECHOS in French**18 Oct 90 pp 1, 8*

[Article by Blandine Hennion and Jean-Leon Vandoorne: "Thomson Signs New Kind of Contract With Government"]

[Text] Thomson has become the first to enter into a new kind of relationship between national companies and their governmental shareholder, with the signing yesterday of an initial five-year contract that guarantees Fr3 billion in state funding to finance research on high-definition television (HDTV). The contract, described as "experimental," is justified both by the critical importance of this key program to the future of the French consumer electronics industry and by its Europe-wide horizon, since it has been on the Eureka agenda since 1986. Altogether, Thomson will contribute 9 billion while its partner Philips will pitch in 11 billion. Other national companies such as Bull would also like to get in on such deals, but they do not presently fulfill the two conditions. To get state funding, Thomson had to make specific commitments to meet deadlines corresponding to phase two of the Eureka program.

Thomson will triple the number of personnel working on HDTV research between now and 1995, bringing the total to nearly 600. Here's how the money will be used: some 48 percent of the Fr9 billion from French sources will be allocated to basic technologies (flat screens, CCD [expansion unknown] captors, integrated circuits, tubes), nine percent to "research on HDMac [expansion unknown] systems," seven percent to "research on manufacturing technologies," 13 percent to "production of studio equipment," and 10 percent to "promotion and full-scale testing of HDTV."

These commitments should enable the state to keep close tabs on the group's progress.

With the long-awaited signing of the five-year research contract with Thomson, the government has opened up a decidedly new path, one which other national companies, beginning with Bull, would also like to follow. Electronics, which promises to be the biggest single contributor to GNP by the year 2000, requires capital-intensive research which has to be started well ahead of time. It is a field in which, compared to other sectors, there is little room for impulsive moves. This was what the four ministers—Pierre Berégovoy (economy and finance), Roger Fauroux (industry), Hubert Curien (research), and Michel Charasse (budget)—meant to convey when they signed this first multiyear commitment on behalf of the governmental shareholder.

The government departed from its rule of single-year budgetary commitments in order to meet the Japanese competition in consumer electronics and create a European HDTV. The HDTV market could be worth \$100

billion by the end of the next decade, and the Europeans, with American industry out of the race, will be Japan's only rival.

The governmental shareholder, which provided Thomson with Fr2 billion in capital this year, has pledged to add Fr3 billion—for HDTV research alone—over the next five years. But those envious of Alain Gomez's group should have patience. This exceptional subvention was not decided overnight. First of all, Thomson showed the tutelary ministry a cooperation agreement with Philips (the European leader in the field) by the terms of which the two firms together would spend Fr20 billion on HDTV research (LES ECHOS of 18 April and 15 May). The government's Fr3 billion thus corresponds to one-third of the nationalized company's planned investment, with the Dutch giant taking care of the other 11 billion.

To get state funding, Thomson had to make specific budgetary commitments and promise to meet specific deadlines. About 50 percent of the Fr9 billion contributed by French sources will go into basic technologies: flat screens, CCP captors, integrated circuits, tubes. The rest will be divided into five relatively equal parts: study of "HDMac" systems, consumer product development, research on fabrication technologies, manufacture of studio equipment for producing HDTV programs, and promotion and full-scale testing of HDTV.

In terms of deadlines, Thomson has committed itself to develop the equipment needed to cover the two Olympic Games at Albertville; it has also promised to produce professional HDMac equipment by 1993 and consumer sets (televisions and video tape recorders) by 1995.

Philips Agreement

The bilateral Philips-Thomson accord would have been unthinkable if the two groups had not already worked together for four years in a Fr1.5-billion Eureka program approved in 1986—a program whose second phase, like the first, was extended in Rome on 1 July. The tutelary ministry carefully examined the agreement with Philips, which covered the project as a whole as well as each of the links in the chain, from integrated coding and decoding circuits to charge transfer devices, HDTV tubes, and flat screens.

It was the quality of that examination, carried out by the Ministry of Industry, which Edith Cresson challenged on so many occasions (see LES ECHOS of 25 May). No doubt the "tongue-lashings" administered by the minister for European affairs (who has since left the government) have had some effect. In any event, there is good reason to assume that the delay in signing the contract was due to the thoroughness of the review.

GERMANY

UK Company Receives License for Satellite Network

LD081111290 Berlin ADN International Service in German 0907 GMT 8 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Bonn (ADN)—British Aerospace Communications Ltd has received a license from the federal posts and telecommunications minister to run a private satellite network for the Federal Republic. It is the first foreign firm to do so. The license covers data transmission services, business television, and an electronic reporting service for broadcasting organizations entitled Satellite News Gathering. [passage omitted]

TURKEY

'Euro-Radio' To Begin Broadcasting in 1992

TA0111085390 Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish 30 Oct 90 p 4

[Text] Ankara (MAK AGENCY)—In addition to Radio-1, Radio-2, Radio-3, and Radio-4, a new radio with an international bent will begin broadcasting in Turkey in 1992. It will be Euro-Radio. This will be done in line with a resolution adopted at the inter-radio coordination meeting of EBU, the European Broadcasting Union. Euro-Radio will begin its transmissions in 1992, the year the borders between EC countries and, consequently, the divisions in mass communications are lifted.

Yazar Outlines Planned Changes for TRT

TA0611092990 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2100 GMT 5 Nov 90

[Excerpt] State Minister Mehmet Yazar has said that an end will be put to the various arguments surrounding the Turkish Radio and Television [TRT] by eliminating the state monopoly in this field. Explaining that there is a consensus in the government on this subject, Yazar said that a proposal will be prepared in 1991 that will include an amendment to the Constitution allowing for this change.

Yazar made this statement during the debate being held in the Assembly Planning and Budget Committee on the

budgets of various state organizations affiliated with the Prime Ministry. He added that criticism of the TRT's activities will not end no matter which government is in power or who is its director general.

He continued: I want to deal with the situation openly for the first time. In view of the fact that world developments and the TRT's great potential have made it one of the most important factors in our society, problems will continue to arise and the debate on this issue will last as long as the TRT continues to be a state monopoly.

To implement the necessary changes, Article 113 of the Constitution and Law 2954 on the same subject will be amended to open the fields of radio and television broadcasting to private enterprise. Yazar stressed that while carrying out this change, no concessions will be made concerning the state's basic principles. He added that the TRT High Council, which currently supervises the TRT programs in accordance with our Constitution, laws, and the state's fundamental principles, as well as national ethics and national security, could do the same for the private radio and television enterprises to be established.

He pointed out that individuals or companies will be required to possess a certain amount of capital, technical capacity, and a suitable staff to apply for licenses to operate such stations for a defined period. This is the manner in which we are planning to open this field to private enterprise, Yazar said, adding that the TRT supports this development and is ready for competition. The arguments on this subject will only end in this way, he concluded.

On the recently developing activities of the TRT, Yazar said that there are currently six channels broadcasting a total of 349 broadcast hours a week. He added that TRT-5 is being broadcast to 13 German provinces with special permission from each of these provinces, an achievement of which even the Italians could not boast. Pointing out that at the moment, 1 million people in Germany are able to view TRT programs, Yazar said that other countries are also able to receive these programs by satellite. He expressed his hope that the number of viewers in Germany will soon increase, noting that coproductions with the Germans are also being planned. [passage omitted]